COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

# SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

*A Tradition of Service*

DATE: March 13, 2008

OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE FILE NO. SH2180613

FROM: ERIC B. SMITH, COMMANDER
LEADERSHIP AND TRAINING DIVISION

TO: KARYN MANNIS, CAPTAIN
INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU

SUBJECT: **EXECUTIVE FORCE REVIEW COMMITTEE DISPOSITION:**
**DEPUTY OSCAR VELOZ #[redacted]**
**DEPUTY JULIO MARTINEZ #[redacted]**
**CENTURY STATION**

On September 7, 2006 at approximately 1209 hours, Deputies Julio Martinez and Oscar Veloz saw Suspect Hill standing on the southeast corner of the intersection. Upon seeing the deputies Suspect Hill gave the deputies a "startled look" and walked away from the deputies. Both deputies approached Suspect Hill and attempted to converse with the suspect. Suspect Hill then ran away and jumped over a wrought iron fence and into the back yard of a residence. As the suspect ran he held a heavy object in his front right waistband area.

Deputy Martinez, the passenger, exited the patrol car and ran southbound on the sidewalk in front of the residence to contain the area. He was then confronted by Suspect Hill when he pointed his pistol at Deputy Martinez. Deputy Martinez fired three rounds at Suspect Hill from his handgun and Suspect Hill turned and ran eastbound back to the rear of the location.

Deputy Veloz then drove the radio car to a containment position opposite Deputy Martinez' location. Suspect Hill then ran from the rear of the location and pointed his handgun at Deputy Veloz. Deputy Veloz fired eleven rounds from his handgun and Suspect Hill dropped to the ground after sustaining multiple gunshot wounds to his upper and lower torso.

Suspect Hill was transported to Saint Francis Medical Center where he was pronounced dead.

On March 13, 2008 the Executive Force Review Committee convened and conducted a review regarding the facts of this case. The applicable policies that were evaluated by the committee were: MMP §§ 3-01/025.00, Use of Force; 3-01/025.30, Use of Firearms and Deadly Force; 3-01/025.10, Unreasonable Force; and 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards.

Concerning:

MMP § 3-01/025.00, Use of Force, MMP § 3-01/025.30, Use of Firearms and Deadly Force, and MMP § 3-01/025.10, Unreasonable Force, the Committee determined that the force used by Deputy Oscar Veloz #[redacted]was reasonable and necessary and in compliance with Department policy.

MMP § 3-01/025.00, Use of Force, MMP § 3-01/025.30, Use of Firearms and Deadly Force, and MMP § 3-01/025.10, Unreasonable Force, the Committee determined that the force used by Deputy Julio Martinez #[redacted]was reasonable and necessary and in compliance with Department policy.

MMP § 3-01/050.10, Performance to Standards, the Committee determined that the tactics employed by both deputies in this incident were within Department Policy.

The Committee ordered the unit commander to send both deputies to the Tactics I training class within forty-five days.

Eric B. Smith, Commander

EBS:MOT:mt

# Table of Contents

# Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

# Officer Involved Shooting



| Report Date: 09-07-06 | Bureau/Station/Facility: Century Station | Admin. Invest.? ☐ | Hit? ☒ |
|---|---|---|---|

## Incident Information

| | |
|---|---|
| URN: 006-14873-2199-013 | Date: 09-07-06 Time: 1209 |
| City or Station: City of Compton | Nature of Incident: Deputy Involved Hit Shooting |
| Location [redacted] N. Aranbe Ave. Compton, CA | |

**Location Type (*circle one or more*):** **Backyard** (circled), Beach, Business, Freeway, Industrial, Park, Parking Lot, Residence, Rural, School, Street, Other: ____________

**Lighting (*circle only one*):** **Darkness** (circled), Daylight, Other, Street Lights

**Weather (*circle only one*):** Clear, **Cloudy** (circled), Fog, Rain

**Distance:** 20 feet

**Incident Type (*circle one or more*):** Accidental, **Armed Person** (circled), Fleeing Suspect, Foot Pursuit, Gun Take Away, Moving Vehicle, Sniper/Ambush, Startle, Struggle Involved, Traffic Stop, Unarmed Person, Unintentional, Vehicle Pursuit, Warrant Service, Warning Shot, Other: ____________

**Initiated by (*circle only one*):** Arrest Warrant, Call, **Observation** (circled), One Person Unit, Other, Search Warrant, Two Person Unit

**Prior Activity (*circle only one*):** Detective, Inmate Transport, Other, **Routine Patrol** (circled)

| Total # of Shots Fired by Deputy | Total # of Shots Fired by Suspect | Aero Unit? | Canine Unit? |
|---|---|---|---|
| 14 | 0 | ☐ | ☐ |

## Employee Witnesses

| Employee # | Last Name | First Name | M.I. | ShiftTime (*circle only one*) | ShiftType (*circle only one*) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | EM PM Day | Regular Overtime Off Duty |
| | | | | EM PM Day | Regular Overtime Off Duty |
| | | | | EM PM Day | Regular Overtime Off Duty |

## Non-Employee Witnesses

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Last Name [redacted] | First Name [redacted] | M.I. [redacted] | | | |
| Street Address [redacted] | City [redacted] | Zip Code [redacted] | Work Ph [redacted] | Home Ph [redacted] | |
| Last Name [redacted] | First Name [redacted] | M.I. [redacted] | | | |
| Street Address [redacted] | City [redacted] | Zip Code [redacted] | Work Ph [redacted] | Home Ph [redacted] | |
| Last Name [redacted] | First Name [redacted] | M.I. [redacted] | | | |
| Street Address [redacted] | City [redacted] | Zip Code [redacted] | Work Ph [redacted] | Home Ph [redacted] | |

## Supervisors

| Employee # | Last Name | First Name | M.I. | (*circle one or more*) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| [redacted] | Wolf | Scott | R. | On Duty / Present during shooting / Witness to shooting / Involved in shooting |
| | | | | On Duty / Present during shooting / Witness to shooting / Involved in shooting |

## Watch Sergeant

| Employee # | Last Name | First Name | M.I. |
|---|---|---|---|
| [redacted] | Spatola | Anthony | |

## Watch Commander

| Employee # | Last Name | First Name | M.I. |
|---|---|---|---|
| [redacted] | Dolson | David | |

**PSTD Use Only**

SH # 2188613

SH-R-438A rev. 3/97

See Reverse

# Officer Involved Shooting



## Rollout Information

| Arrival Date | Arrival Time | Date Submitted | Date of Recommendation |
|---|---|---|---|
| 09-08-06 | 1318 | | |

| Employee # | Last Name | First Name | M.I |
|---|---|---|---|
| [redacted] | Jensen | Curtis | A. |
| [redacted] | Morejon | Elier | |
| [redacted] | Holloway | Diana | L. |

## Shooting / Force Information

### *Method*

(AW) Arwen
(BC) Baton:(Control)
(BI) Baton:(Impact)
(BF) Bodily Fluids
(CN) Canine
(CR) Carotid Restraint
(CH) Choke Hold
(CT) Control Holds:(Control Techniques)
(TT) Control Holds:(Team Takedown)
(TD) Control Holds:(Takedown)
(CE) Chemical
(OC) Chemical Agents (OC Spray)
(TG) Chemical Agents (Tear Gas)
(EX) Explosives
(FH) Firearm (Handgun)
(FR) Firearm (Rifle)
(FS) Firearm (Shotgun)
(FO) Firearm (Other)
(FB) Flashbang
(FL) Flashlight
(OE) Other Weapon: Edged
(OV) Other Weapon: Vehicle
(OB) Other Weapon: Blunt Object
(OO) Other Weapon: Other
(PK) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Kick)
(PS) Personal Weapon: Feet/Leg: (Sweep)
(PH) Personal Weapon (Hand/Arm)
(PP) Personal Weapon (Push)
(PO) Personal Weapon (Other)
(RS) Resistance
(CN) Restraint Device (Capture Net)
(RH) Restraint Device (Handcuffs)
(HB) Restraint Device:Hobble (Legs Only)
(TP) Restraint Device:Hobble (TARP)
(RE) Restraint Device: REACT Belt
(SP) Sap
(SH) Shield
(SG) 37mm Stinger
(SB) Sting Ball
(ST) Stun Bag
(TR) Taser
(UC) Uncooperative

### *Type of Injury*

(AB) Abrasion
(BR) Bruise
(BU) Burn
(CP) Complaint of Pain
(CO) Concussion
(DH) Death
(DI) Dislocation
(DB) Dog Bite
(FR) Fractures
(GS) Gunshot
(HB) Human Bite
(LC) Lacerations
(ND) Nerve Damage
(OD) Organ Damage
(PA) Paralysis
(PW) Puncture Wound
(SD) Soft Tissue Damage
(ST) Sprain/Twists
(UN) Unconscious
(RM) Refused Med Treatment
(NN) NONE

### *Body Part Injured*

(AD) Abdomen
(AK) Ankle
(AR) Arm
(BK) Back
(BT) Buttocks
(CH) Chest
(EL) Elbow
(FA) Face
(FE) Feet
(FI) Fingers
(GE) Genitals
(GR) Groin
(HD) Hand
(HE) Head
(HI) Hip
(IN) Internal
(KN) Knees
(LE) Leg
(NK) Neck
(SH) Shoulder
(WR) Wrist

### *Brand*

(AK) AK-47
(BN) Benelli
(BR) Beretta
(BW) Browning
(CH) Charter Arms
(CO) Colt
(DA) Davis Industries
(GL) Glock
(HA) Harrington & Richardson
(HI) Hi Standard
(HK) H & K
(IT) Ithica
(IV) Iver Johnson
(JE) Jennings
(LO) Lorcin
(LU) Luger
(MA) Marlin
(MO) Mossberg
(NC) NCI aka SKS
(NA) North American
(NO) Norinco
(RA) Raven
(RM) Remington
(RG) RG
(RI) RGI
(RO) Rossi
(SW) Smith & Wesson
(SR) Sturm Ruger
(ST) Sterling
(TA) Taurus
(WE) Weatherby
(WN) Winchester
(US) US Government
(YY) Handmade (Inmate)
(XX) Homemade (Non-Inmate)
(ZZ) Other Brand

### *Caliber*

( 9) 9 mm
(10) 10 mm
(12) 12 guage
(20) 20 guage
(21) .22-250
(22) .22 caliber
(23) .223 caliber
(24) .243 caliber
(25) .25 caliber
(30) .308 caliber
(35) .357 caliber
(36) 30-60 caliber
(38) .38 caliber
(40) .40 caliber
(41) .410 guage
(44) .44 caliber
(45) .45 caliber
(50) 50 mm
(SL) Slug
(WW) Other caliber

## *FORCE APPLIED* *(one code per block)*

| Used By (E# or S#) | Used Against (E# or S#) | Method (Code) | Brand (Code) | Caliber (Code) | Authorized Weapon? (Y/N) | Authorized Ammunition? (Y/N) | Type of Injury (Code) | Body Part (Code) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S1 | E1 | FH | SW | 9 | | | DH | |
| E1 | S1 | FH | BR | 9 | Y | Y | NN | |
| S1 | E2 | FH | SW | 9 | | | DH | |
| E2 | S1 | FH | BR | 9 | Y | Y | NN | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |



See Front Side

# Officer Involved Shooting
# Involved Employee Information

URN: 006-14873-2199-013



## Involved Employee

**E 1**

| Field | Value |
|---|---|
| Employee # | [redacted] |
| Last Name | Martinez |
| First Name | Julio |
| M.I. | C. |
| Sex | M |
| Race | H |
| Rank | Deputy Sheriff |
| Unit Assignment | Century Station |
| Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.) | 213A |
| ShiftTime (*circle only one*): EM PM Day | Day (circled) |
| ShiftType (*circle only one*): Regular Overtime Off Duty | Regular (circled) |
| Intoxication/Drug Usage? | ☐ |
| Substance Used | |
| Hospital Admission? | ☐ |
| Hospital Name | |
| Coroner Case? | ☐ |
| Coroner Case # | |
| Interviewed? | ☒ |
| Hrs of sleep prior to shooting | 6 |
| Duty Time (hrs) | [redacted] |
| Clothing (*circle only one*): Plain Clothes no Vest, Plain Clothes w/ Vest, Raid Jacket no Vest, Raid Jacket w/ Vest, Uniform no Vest, Uniform w/ Vest | Uniform w/ Vest (circled) |
| Other Factors | |
| Age | [redacted] |
| Height | 5' 6 1/2 |
| Weight | 194 |
| Range Qualification Date | [redacted] |
| PPC Qualification Date | [redacted] |
| Laser Training Date | [redacted] |
| Certified with Weapon Used? | [redacted] |
| Patrol Certification? | [redacted] |
| Certification Unit | [redacted] |
| Prior Shootings? | ☒ |
| Number of Prior Shootings | 1 |
| Directed Force | [redacted] |
| Weapons Fired Brand / Caliber / # Shots | Beretta / 9mm / 3 |
| Weapons Fired Brand / Caliber / # Shots | |
| Field Training Officer Emp # / Last Name / First Name / M.I. | [redacted] / [redacted] / [redacted] / [redacted] |
| Field Training Officer Emp # / Last Name / First Name / M.I. | [redacted] / [redacted] / [redacted] / [redacted] |

**E 2**

| Field | Value |
|---|---|
| Employee # | [redacted] |
| Last Name | Veloz |
| First Name | Oscar |
| M.I. | E. |
| Sex | M |
| Race | H |
| Rank | Deputy Sheriff |
| Unit Assignment | Century Station |
| Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.) | 213A |
| ShiftTime (*circle only one*): EM PM Day | Day (circled) |
| ShiftType (*circle only one*): Regular Overtime Off Duty | Regular (circled) |
| Intoxication/Drug Usage? | ☐ |
| Substance Used | |
| Hospital Admission? | ☐ |
| Hospital Name | |
| Coroner Case? | ☐ |
| Coroner Case # | |
| Interviewed? | ☒ |
| Hrs of sleep prior to shooting | 5 |
| Duty Time (hrs) | [redacted] |
| Clothing (*circle only one*): Plain Clothes no Vest, Plain Clothes w/ Vest, Raid Jacket no Vest, Raid Jacket w/ Vest, Uniform no Vest, Uniform w/ Vest | Uniform w/ Vest (circled) |
| Other Factors | |
| Age | [redacted] |
| Height | 5' 09" |
| Weight | 200 |
| Range Qualification Date | [redacted] |
| PPC Qualification Date | [redacted] |
| Laser Training Date | [redacted] |
| Certified with Weapon Used? | [redacted] |
| Patrol Certification? | [redacted] |
| Certification Unit | [redacted] |
| Prior Shootings? | [redacted] |
| Number of Prior Shootings | [redacted] |
| Directed Force | [redacted] |
| Weapons Fired Brand / Caliber / # Shots | Beretta / 9mm / 11 |
| Weapons Fired Brand / Caliber / # Shots | |
| Field Training Officer Emp # / Last Name / First Name / M.I. | [redacted] / [redacted] / [redacted] / [redacted] |
| Field Training Officer Emp # / Last Name / First Name / M.I. | [redacted] / [redacted] / [redacted] / [redacted] |

**E __**

| Field | Value |
|---|---|
| Employee # | |
| Last Name | |
| First Name | |
| M.I. | |
| Sex | |
| Race | |
| Rank | |
| Unit Assignment | |
| Work Assignment (Unit #, Module, etc.) | |
| ShiftTime (*circle only one*): EM PM Day | |
| ShiftType (*circle only one*): Regular Overtime Off Duty | |
| Intoxication/Drug Usage? | ☐ |
| Substance Used | |
| Hospital Admission? | ☐ |
| Hospital Name | |
| Coroner Case? | ☐ |
| Coroner Case # | |
| Interviewed? | ☐ |
| Hrs of sleep prior to shooting | |
| Duty Time (hrs) | |
| Clothing (*circle only one*): Plain Clothes no Vest, Plain Clothes w/ Vest, Raid Jacket no Vest, Raid Jacket w/ Vest, Uniform no Vest, Uniform w/ Vest | |
| Other Factors | |
| Age | |
| Height | |
| Weight | |
| Range Qualification Date | |
| PPC Qualification Date | |
| Laser Training Date | |
| Certified with Weapon Used? | ☐ |
| Patrol Certification? | ☐ |
| Certification Unit | |
| Prior Shootings? | ☐ |
| Number of Prior Shootings | |
| Directed Force | ☐ |
| Weapons Fired Brand / Caliber / # Shots | |
| Weapons Fired Brand / Caliber / # Shots | |
| Field Training Officer Emp # / Last Name / First Name / M.I. | |
| Field Training Officer Emp # / Last Name / First Name / M.I. | |

# Officer Involved Shooting
# Suspect Information



## Suspect Information

**S 1**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Last Name: Hill | First Name: Craig | M.I.: J. |
| AKA Last Name: | First Name: | M.I.: |
| Sex: M Race: B | Street Address: [redacted] City: [redacted] | State & Zip Code: [redacted] |
| Work Phone: | Home Phone: | Social Security #: [redacted] | Driver's License #: [redacted] |
| Age: 27 D.O.B. 09-04-79 | Height: 6' 00 Weight: 145 | FBI # [redacted] | CII # [redacted] |
| Booking # None | Primary Charge: | Secondary Charge: |
| Coroner Case? ☒ | Coroner Case # 2006-06971 | Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☒ | Substance Used: Marijuana |
| Armed? ☒ | Apprehended? ☒ | Mental Illness? ☐ | Criminal History? [redacted] |
| Vehicle Make | Model: | Year: |

**S__**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Last Name | First Name | M.I. |
| AKA Last Name | First Name | M.I. |
| Sex: Race: | Street Address: City | State & Zip Code: |
| Work Phone: | Home Phone: | Social Security #: | Driver's License #: |
| Age: D.O.B. | Height: Weight: | FBI # | CII # |
| Booking # | Primary Charge: | Secondary Charge: |
| Coroner Case? ☐ | Coroner Case # | Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐ | Substance Used: |
| Armed? ☐ | Apprehended? ☐ | Mental Illness? ☐ | Criminal History? ☐ |
| Vehicle Make | Model: | Year: |

**S__**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Last Name | First Name | M.I. |
| AKA Last Name | First Name | M.I. |
| Sex: Race: | Street Address: City | State & Zip Code: |
| Work Phone: | Home Phone: | Social Security #: | Driver's License #: |
| Age: D.O.B. | Height: Weight: | FBI # | CII # |
| Booking # | Primary Charge: | Secondary Charge: |
| Coroner Case? ☐ | Coroner Case # | Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐ | Substance Used: |
| Armed? ☐ | Apprehended? ☐ | Mental Illness? ☐ | Criminal History? ☐ |
| Vehicle Make | Model: | Year: |

**S__**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Last Name | First Name | M.I. |
| AKA Last Name | First Name | M.I. |
| Sex: Race: | Street Address: City | State & Zip Code: |
| Work Phone: | Home Phone: | Social Security #: | Driver's License #: |
| Age: D.O.B. | Height: Weight: | FBI # | CII # |
| Booking # | Primary Charge: | Secondary Charge: |
| Coroner Case? ☐ | Coroner Case # | Intoxication/Drug Usage? ☐ | Substance Used: |
| Armed? ☐ | Apprehended? ☐ | Mental Illness? ☐ | Criminal History? ☐ |
| Vehicle Make | Model: | Year: |

# SUPPLEMENTAL NON-EMPLOYEE WITNESSES
## Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department



**Non-Employee Witnesses**

Last Name [redacted] | First Name [redacted] | M.I. [redacted]
Street Address [redacted] | Zip Code [redacted] | Work Ph [redacted] | Home Ph [redacted]

Last Name [redacted] | First Name [redacted] | M.I. [redacted]
Street Address [redacted] | Zip Code [redacted] | Work Ph [redacted] | Home Ph [redacted]

Last Name | First Name | M.I.
Street Address | Zip Code | Work Ph | Home Ph

Last Name | First Name | M.I.
Street Address | Zip Code | Work Ph | Home Ph

Last Name | First Name | M.I.
Street Address | Zip Code | Work Ph | Home Ph

Last Name | First Name | M.I.
Street Address | Zip Code | Work Ph | Home Ph

Last Name | First Name | M.I.
Street Address | Zip Code | Work Ph | Home Ph

Last Name | First Name | M.I.
Street Address | Zip Code | Work Ph | Home Ph

Last Name | First Name | M.I.
Street Address | Zip Code | Work Ph | Home Ph

Last Name | First Name | M.I.
Street Address | Zip Code | Work Ph | Home Ph

Last Name | First Name | M.I.
Street Address | Zip Code | Work Ph | Home Ph

Last Name | First Name | M.I.
Street Address | Zip Code | Work Ph | Home Ph

Last Name | First Name | M.I.
Street Address | Zip Code | Work Ph | Home Ph

Last Name | First Name | M.I.
Street Address | Zip Code | Work Ph | Home Ph

Last Name | First Name | M.I.
Street Address | Zip Code | Work Ph | Home Ph

Last Name | First Name | M.I.
Street Address | Zip Code | Work Ph | Home Ph

# INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU
# HIT SHOOTING - SUSPECT DECEASED
# INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY
# IAB# SH 2180613

| | |
|---|---|
| **File #:** | 006-14873-2199-013 |
| **Date / Time:** | Thursday, September 7, 2006, 1209 hours |
| **Location:** | [redacted] |
| **Suspect:** | Hill, Craig Jacoby, MB/09-04-79 |
| **Personnel:** | Deputy Oscar Veloz #[redacted] - 213A Days |
| | Deputy Julio Martinez #[redacted] 213A Days |

On September 7, 2006, the Internal Affairs Bureau's Force and Shooting Response Team responded to [redacted] North Aranbe Avenue in the City of Compton regarding an officer involved hit shooting. The team consisted of Sergeant Elier Morejon, Sergeant Diana Holloway, and Lieutenant Curtis Jensen. Detectives William Marsh and William Cotter of Homicide Bureau were the detectives assigned to handle the criminal aspect of the incident.

When the team arrived at the location, one suspect had been transported to a local hospital after sustaining multiple gunshot wounds to the upper and lower torso. Subsequently, he was pronounced dead. There was an active command post and containment of the location. Investigators learned that the series of events which occurred culminated into an officer involved hit shooting involving Deputies Julio Martinez and Oscar Veloz. The personnel involved in the incident are uniformed patrol officers working a two-person unit.

This investigation is based on statements by the involved deputies and witnesses at the scene, and information obtained during the criminal investigation, along with various written documentation.

## OVERVIEW:

On September 7, 2006, at approximately 1209 hours, Deputies Julio Martinez and Oscar Veloz, Unit 213A, both assigned to Century Station, were traveling northbound on Aranbe Avenue at Maple Street in the City of Compton. They observed an African-American male (Suspect Craig Hill) standing on the southeast corner of the intersection. Upon seeing the deputies, Hill gave the deputies a "startled look" and walked eastbound along the sidewalk.

Deputy Veloz, the driver, stopped the patrol vehicle at the southeast corner. As the deputies attempted to converse with the suspect, he jumped a wrought iron fence along the north property line of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue and ran southbound, then eastbound through the yard.

As the suspect was running, he was seen holding his front right waistband area with his right hand, while a "heavy object" was seen in his front right pant pocket. The suspect then ran southbound behind the residence.

Deputy Martinez, the bookman, exited the patrol car and ran southbound on the sidewalk in front of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue, watching as the male ran southbound behind the residence. Deputy Martinez ran to the south side of the residence (front) to contain the southwest area of the residence. Deputy Martinez was confronted by Suspect Hill as he was running from the rear of the location to the front, directly towards him (Deputy Martinez). Suspect Hill pointed his weapon at Deputy Martinez. In fear for his safety, Deputy Martinez fired three rounds at Hill from his Department issue handgun. Hill turned and ran eastbound back to the rear of the location.

Deputy Veloz, the driver, saw Deputy Martinez on the southwest side of the residence. So, he drove east on Maple to cover the northeast side of the location. He exited the patrol vehicle and took a containment spot, one residence east of the location.

Deputy Veloz was confronted by Suspect Hill as he ran northbound on the east side of the location. The suspect pointed his handgun at Deputy Veloz. In fear for his life, and believing the suspect was going to shoot him, Deputy Veloz fired eleven rounds from his Department issued handgun. Hill dropped to the ground, sustaining multiple gunshot wounds to his upper and lower torso. A containment of the area was established and paramedics were summoned to the location to treat Hill. Hill was subsequently transported to Saint Francis Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead.

Suspect Hill's weapon, a "Smith & Wesson", .40 caliber blue steel semi-automatic pistol, was recovered at the scene. The pistol was loaded with eight live rounds in the magazine, but none in the chamber.

On July 9, 2007, Deputy District Attorney Renee Korn issued a Letter of Opinion regarding the deputy involved shooting. In her review of the shooting, D.D.A. Korn deemed Deputies Veloz and Martinez acted in "self-defense when the suspect placed both deputies in imminent danger of death or great bodily injury." (For D.D.A. Korn's Letter of Opinion, refer to the Miscellaneous Documents section.)

## INVOLVED PERSONNEL:

**VELOZ**, Oscar E.
Deputy Sheriff, Employee #[redacted]
Field Operations Region II
Century Station

**MARTINEZ**, Julio C.
Deputy Sheriff, Employee #[redacted]
Field Operations II
Century Station

## WORK HISTORY:

**VELOZ,** Oscar

| | |
|---|---|
| Date of Employment: | June 11, 1998 |
| Date assigned to Patrol: | [redacted] |
| Completed Patrol Training: | |
| Prior Shooting Incident(s): | |
| Prior Founded Force Incident(s): | |

**MARTINEZ**, Julio

| | |
|---|---|
| Date of Employment: | November 10, 1998 |
| Date assigned to Patrol: | [redacted] |
| Completed Patrol Training: | |
| Prior Shooting Incident(s): | One prior |
| Prior Founded Force Incident(s): | None |

## SUSPECT:

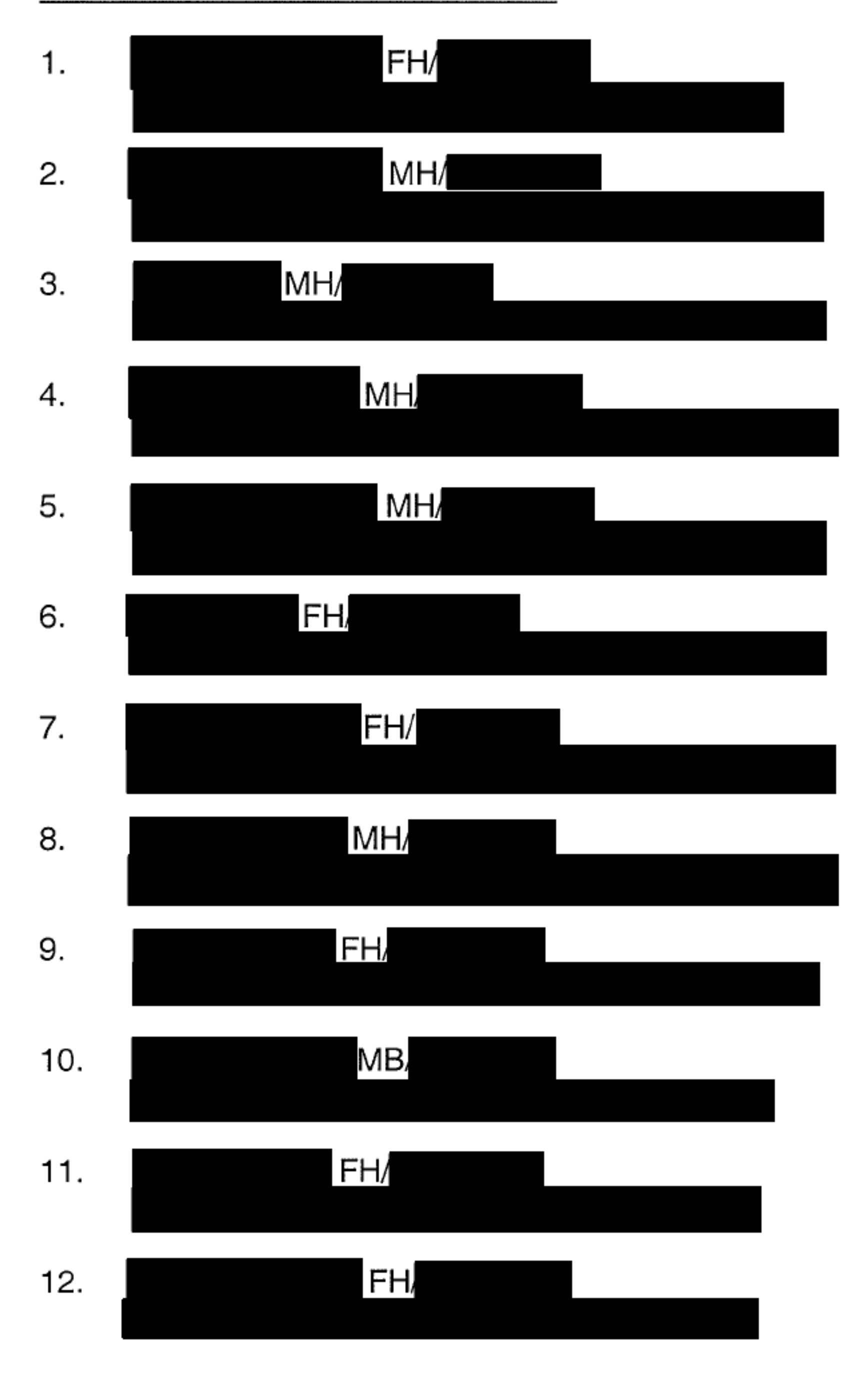
**HILL**, Craig Jacoby, MB/27, 6'-00, 145 lbs., black/brown, DOB: 09-04-79, (Deceased)
[redacted]

Suspect Hill has an [redacted] A check of the Consolidated Criminal History Reporting System (CCHRs) revealed [redacted]

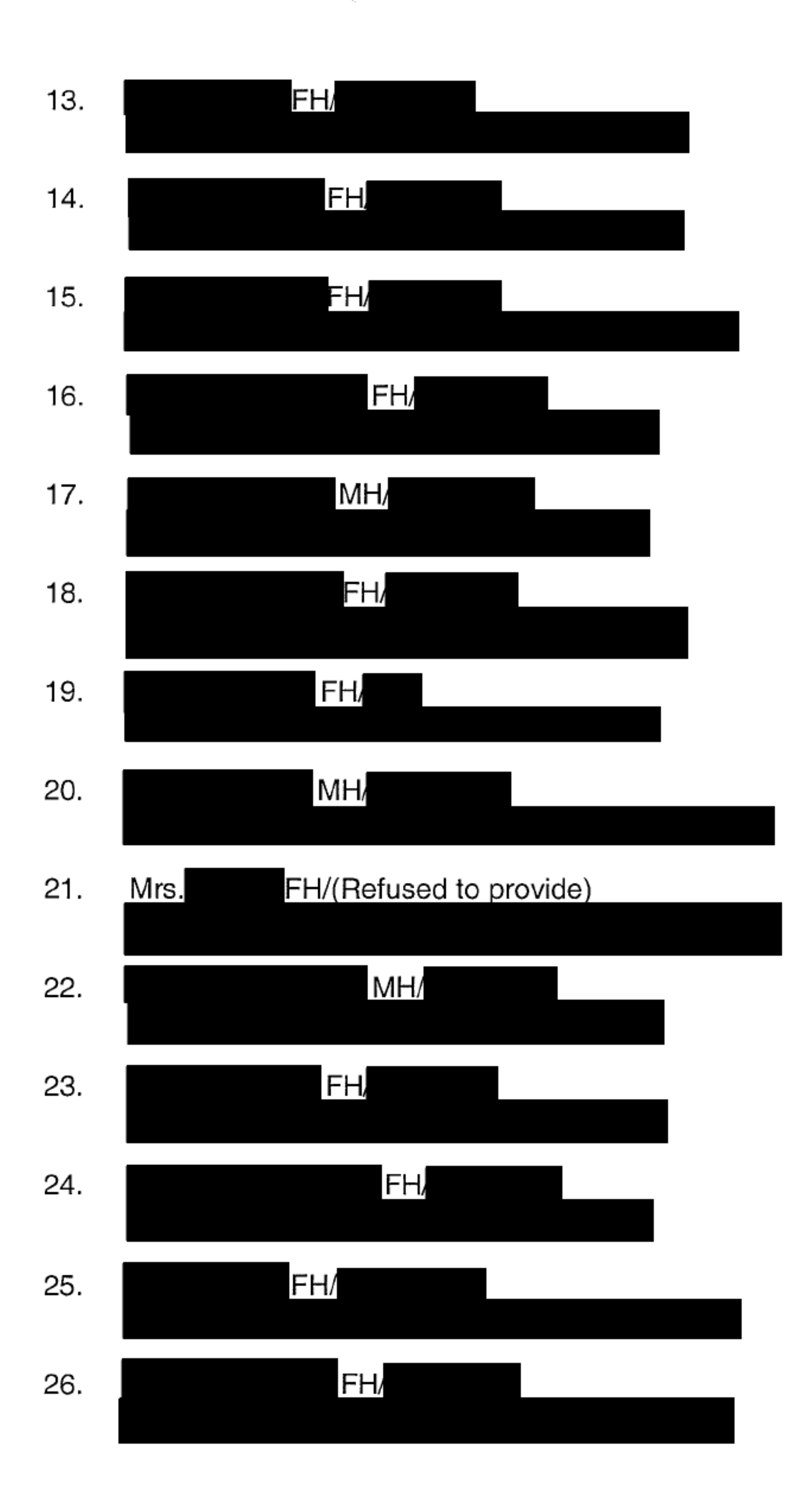
Suspect Hill was a known and documented "Tree Top Piru" gang member with a moniker of "Casual G," "YG," and "G Red."

(Refer to Exhibit A, pages 101-113, for Craig Hill's criminal history record.)

**NON-DEPARTMENT WITNESSES:**



1. [redacted] FH/[redacted]
2. [redacted] MH/[redacted]
3. [redacted] MH/[redacted]
4. [redacted] MH/[redacted]
5. [redacted] MH/[redacted]
6. [redacted] FH/[redacted]
7. [redacted] FH/[redacted]
8. [redacted] MH/[redacted]
9. [redacted] FH/[redacted]
10. [redacted] MB/[redacted]
11. [redacted] FH/[redacted]
12. [redacted] FH/[redacted]



13. [redacted] FH/ [redacted]

14. [redacted] FH/ [redacted]

15. [redacted] FH/ [redacted]

16. [redacted] FH/ [redacted]

17. [redacted] MH/ [redacted]

18. [redacted] FH/ [redacted]

19. [redacted] FH/ [redacted]

20. [redacted] MH/ [redacted]

21. Mrs. [redacted] FH/(Refused to provide) [redacted]

22. [redacted] MH/ [redacted]

23. [redacted] FH/ [redacted]

24. [redacted] FH/ [redacted]

25. [redacted] FH/ [redacted]

26. [redacted] FH/ [redacted]



27. [redacted] FH/[redacted]

28. [redacted] MB/[redacted]

29. [redacted] MB/[redacted]

**INJURIES:**

Suspect Hill sustained twelve gunshot wounds to the following areas of his body: his left shoulder, right shoulder, left elbow, left hip, left leg, right forearm, right elbow, face, and back.

> (Refer to Exhibit A, pages 133-142, for specific information regarding the gunshot wounds.)

There were no injuries to either Deputy Veloz or Deputy Martinez.

**PHYSICAL EVIDENCE:**

For physical evidence gathered at the crime scene and processed by the Crime Lab, refer to Exhibit A, pages 74-76.

Refer to the Property Damage section for additional comments regarding bullet strikes.

**WEAPONS USED BY DEPUTY PERSONNEL:**

**Deputy Oscar Veloz**
**Department Issue Weapon** - Beretta, 92FS, 9mm, semi-automatic pistol, serial number BER[redacted]
**Ammunition** - Eleven (11) of sixteen (16) rounds were fired.
**Shell Casings** - Nine (9) expended 9mm Luger casings were recovered near the area where Deputy Veloz stood.
**Date Employee Last Qualified** [redacted]
**Date Last Trained With Weapon** [redacted]

Deputy Veloz's weapon was examined, test fired, and found to be functional and within Department standards by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Scientific Services

Bureau, Firearms Identification Section, under Lab Receipt No. J812310. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 96.)

**Deputy Julio Martinez**

**Department Issue Weapon** - Beretta, 92FS, 9mm, semi-automatic pistol, serial number BER[redacted]

**Ammunition** - Three (3) of sixteen (16) rounds were fired.

**Shell Casings** - Three (3) expended 9mm Luger casings were recovered near the area where Deputy Martinez stood.

**Date Employee Last Qualified** - [redacted]

**Date Last Trained With Weapon** - [redacted]

Deputy Martinez's weapon was examined, test fired, and found to be functional and within Department standards by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Scientific Services Bureau, Firearms Identification Section, under Lab Receipt No. J812310. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 96.)

## WEAPON USED BY THE SUSPECT:

Suspect Craig Hill was armed with a blue steel "Smith & Wesson", .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol, model 410. The weapon was recovered on the ground of the walkway of [redacted] Maple Street against the house, several feet east of the rear residence of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue. The safety was on and the hammer was in the forward position. No live round was in the chamber, but the gun contained a magazine with eight (8) live .40 caliber rounds. A check of the gun's serial number indicated that it had been reported as stolen by the Los Angeles Police Department on April 4, 2004. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 94.)

## PROPERTY DAMAGE:

ITEM-A: Bullet hole in an abandoned refrigerator along the east fence line at the southeast corner of the property line of [redacted] Bullet strike was 63' 2" south of the south curb line of [redacted] 57' east of the east curb line of [redacted] and 3' 1" above ground level.

ITEM-B: Bullet strike to a door/wooden paneling laying on the ground of the east walkway of [redacted] Bullet strike was 60' 3" south of the south curb line of [redacted] and 54' 7" east of the east curb line of [redacted]

ITEM-C: Bullet strike to a door/wooden paneling laying on the ground of the east walkway of [redacted] Bullet strike was 59' 7" south of the south curb line of [redacted] and 54' 10" east of the east curb line of [redacted]

ITEM-D: Bullet strike to the exterior wall along the east side of [redacted]
Strike was 10" north of the south east corner, 14" above ground level.

ITEM-E: Bullet strike to the exterior wall along the east side of [redacted]
Strike was 54" north of the south east corner, 10" above ground level.

ITEM-F: Bullet strike to the exterior wall along the east side of [redacted]
Strike was 68" north of the south east corner, 19" above ground level.

ITEM-G: Bullet strike to the exterior wall along the east side of [redacted]
Strike was 80" north of the south east corner, 10" above ground level.

ITEM-H: Empty broken beer bottle, "Old English 800", with a bullet hole in the middle. Located laying on the east walkway of [redacted] 53' 6" south of the south curb line of [redacted] and 55' 6" east of the east curb line of [redacted]

(Refer to Exhibit A, page 77-78 and 90.)

## CRIMINAL INVESTIGATOR:

**Investigators:** Sergeant William Marsh, Homicide Bureau
Detective William Cotter, Homicide Bureau

Due to the suspect's demise, there were no criminal charges filed.

## LIGHTING AND WEATHER CONDITIONS:

This incident occurred during daylight hours on a bright and sunny day.

## INVOLVED EMPLOYEE STATEMENTS:

***The following are summaries of the employee interviews conducted by Homicide and IAB investigators. Additional information and the precise wording of their statements may be obtained by reviewing their recorded interviews.***

### DEPUTY OSCAR VELOZ

Deputy Oscar Veloz was interviewed at Century Sheriff's Station on September 7, 2006, at approximately 1510 hours, by Homicide Investigators, Sergeant William Marsh and William Cotter. He was also interviewed by Internal Affairs investigators, Sergeants Clay Anderson and Dinah Grote, on November 8, 2007, at approximately 1403 hrs. Present with Deputy Veloz during his

interviews, at his request, was attorney Elizabeth Gibbons. The following is an accounting of those interviews:

On September 7, 2006, Deputy Veloz was assigned to Day Shift as Unit 213A, with his normal scheduled partner, Deputy Martinez. They had been working as radio car partners for approximately five months. On this particular day, Deputy Veloz was the driver and Deputy Martinez was the passenger ("book man") in their marked, black and white radio car.

Deputy Veloz said he and Deputy Martinez began their patrol activities at approximately [redacted] hours. [redacted] They then began a drive back to their assigned patrol area. Deputy Veloz related that the north side of Rosecrans Boulevard is patrolled by Century Station, and the south side is patrolled by Compton Station.

Deputy Veloz said there had been some recent gang shootings involving "Tree Top Piru" from the City of Compton, and "Fruit Town Piru", from Century Station's area. Due to these recent shootings and while en route back to his assigned area, he thought he would try some get some intelligence for O.S.S./G.E.T. by contacting citizens for possible field interviews.

Deputy Veloz said he drove westbound on Cedar Street to northbound on Aranbe Avenue. As he traveled on Aranbe Avenue, approaching Maple Street, he saw a male Black adult (later identified as Suspect Craig Hill) standing on the southeast corner of Aranbe Avenue and Maple Street. He stated Maple Street is located two streets south of Rosecrans Boulevard.

The suspect was facing northbound, away from them, as the deputies drove towards him. When Deputy Veloz approached the intersection, he stopped his patrol vehicle on the southeast corner, in the turning radius, facing in a northeast direction. The suspect looked in the direction of the patrol car and gave a "startled look." While still seated in the patrol vehicle, they attempted to converse with the suspect, but he quickly began to walk away eastbound on the south sidewalk of Maple Street, along the north fence of the property line at [redacted] Aranbe Avenue. Within seconds, the suspect jumped over the fence of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue. He said, "I live here," as he suddenly ran eastbound along the north side of the residence, then turned southbound behind the rear portion of the residence, adjacent to the west property line of [redacted] West Maple Street.

Deputy Veloz stated when the suspect jumped the fence, he saw the suspect holding the right side of his waistband as he ran, while his left arm was swinging freely. At this time, Deputy Veloz said he thought that the suspect had a gun. He said Deputy Martinez exited the radio car and began to move south along the east side of Aranbe Avenue from Maple Street, in front of the residence at [redacted] Aranbe Avenue.

Deputy Veloz stated he had Compton RD maps that were tucked behind his sun visor. He said he was pulling down the maps for a possible containment, when "all of a sudden I hear shooting." However, he related that he didn't know where the shots were coming from. He said approximately three to five seconds had passed from the time Deputy Martinez exited the patrol vehicle to the time he thought he heard the three to five gunshots.

Deputy Veloz said he was still parked at the turning axis of Aranbe Avenue and Maple Street, when he looked south onto Aranbe Avenue. He saw that Deputy Martinez was standing on the sidewalk, on the south side property line of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue, talking on his portable radio. He then heard Deputy Martinez's radio transmission of a "998." Deputy Veloz said he knew by the tone of Deputy Martinez's voice and saw that he was standing, that he was not injured or shot. He said he knew the suspect had some sort of weapon, because Deputy Martinez put out the "998."

He said he drove eastbound on Maple Street in order to establish a containment of the suspect and residence. Deputy Veloz stated as he approached the first parked vehicle, which was parked on the south side of Maple Street, he lost sight of his partner, Deputy Martinez.

> **IAB Note:** Deputy Veloz was provided with a copy of the diagram of the location and involved streets. He provided referenced landmarks on the diagram. Refer to Exhibit B.

Deputy Veloz stopped the radio car in front of the residence immediately east of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue (identified as [redacted] Maple Street), and exited the car. He said he didn't see the suspect behind the rear of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue and he wanted to move to a position of cover. As he crossed the grassy area in the front yard of [redacted] Maple Street, while running for cover on the northwest corner of the residence, he heard Deputy Martinez on the "patch." He then heard Deputy Martinez yelling (on the patch), "He's right behind the wall of this target location and he's going eastbound."

Deputy Veloz stated that when he arrived at the northwest corner of [redacted] Maple Street, he saw a rug/carpet hanging from the [redacted] which separates the properties on the west side of [redacted] Maple Street and to the east (rear) side of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue. He said he was unable to see the area to the rear of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue because of the hanging rug/carpet and other clutter in the yard. Using the rug/carpet as concealment, he stepped westbound approximately five feet to the [redacted] in order to clear the area behind the rug. He said he looked into rear yard of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue and didn't see anything. As he was stepping back for cover, he saw the suspect running northbound from the southeast corner of the residence, approximately thirty feet from him and the backdrop was the wall of a garage. The suspect was holding a black semi-automatic handgun in his right hand with his arm extended outward in front of his body, pointing the weapon at Deputy Veloz.

In fear for his life, Deputy Veloz stated that he fired six to seven rounds at the suspect, simultaneously, telling the suspect to drop his weapon. He said he did this in rapid

succession, because the suspect did not immediately fall to the ground or drop his handgun. As the suspect fell to the ground, Deputy Veloz saw the suspect's handgun "fly off his hand." He ordered the suspect several times, "Show me your hands. Show me your hands," as the suspect attempted to crawl backwards southbound away from Deputy Veloz. He then heard Deputy Martinez yelling and asking him if he was okay. He said he yelled back to Deputy Martinez that he was okay, relating that the radio traffic was busy. He remained at his location monitoring the suspect until he was relieved by an assisting unit.

Deputy Veloz said the entire incident occurred "so quickly." He said from the time he heard the initial gunshots by Deputy Martinez to the time he encountered and shot Suspect Hill, he thought it to be approximately ten seconds.

Deputy Veloz stated he did not recall having any prior contact with Suspect Hill nor had he ever responded to [redacted] Aranbe Avenue in the past.

> **IAB Note:** Deputy Veloz actually fired eleven rounds at the suspect. For complete transcriptions of Deputy Veloz's interviews (the Homicide and Internal Affairs interviews), refer to the "Transcribed Interviews" section of this report.

**DEPUTY JULIO MARTINEZ**

Deputy Julio Martinez was interviewed at Century Sheriff's Station on September 7, 2006, at approximately 1628 hours, by Homicide Investigators, Sergeant William Marsh and William Cotter. He was also interviewed by Internal Affairs investigators, Sergeants Clay Anderson and Dinah Grote, on November 8, 2007, at approximately 1327 hrs. Present with Deputy Veloz during his interviews, at his request, was attorney Elizabeth Gibbons. The following is an accounting of those interviews:

Deputy Martinez stated that he and his partner, Deputy Veloz, started their patrol shift at [redacted] hours on September 7, 2006. Deputy Martinez was the passenger ("book man") and Deputy Veloz was the driver of the vehicle. Their unit designation for the shift was 213A.

[redacted] They were headed back to Willowbrook, their assigned patrol area. They drove north bound on Aranbe Avenue from Cedar Street, one street south of Maple Street. As they approached the house south of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue, Deputy Martinez saw the figure of a male Black standing on the southeast corner of Aranbe Avenue and Maple Street.

Deputy Martinez said he was unsure if the figure (later identified as Suspect Hill) was facing the patrol car as they drove northbound. As they continued, Deputy Martinez could clearly that the suspect was wearing dark clothing and possibly a hat. Deputy Martinez recalled that it was a bright sunny day, close to the noon hour. He stated he was not wearing

sunglasses and his view was unobstructed.

As the patrol car approached Maple Street, Deputy Martinez saw the suspect as he started to walk eastbound on the south sidewalk of Maple Street. When the patrol car reached the corner of Aranbe Avenue and Maple Street, the suspect placed both hands on the black wrought iron fence which separates the south sidewalk of Maple Street from the property at [redacted] Aranbe Avenue. When the patrol car turned the corner onto Maple Street, Deputy Martinez saw the suspect jump over the fence into the yard of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue. The suspect landed in an area to the west of a Honda vehicle parked in the yard.

Deputy Martinez recalled thinking that there were several things suspicious with the suspect's behavior. He was wondering why the suspect had a surprised look on his face when he saw the deputies, and why was he jumping a fence and running away.

Due to the suspicious actions of the suspect, Deputy Martinez said he exited the patrol vehicle and ran south bound approximately twenty feet on the east sidewalk as the suspect ran southbound in the yard. The suspect then turned eastbound and ran along the north side of the residence of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue.

At that time, Deputy Martinez observed the suspect had "something heavy" moving around in the right front portion of his pants. The suspect turned southbound and ran to the rear of the residence at [redacted] Aranbe Avenue and out of view. Deputy Martinez said he then ran southbound to the area near the driveway of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue, which is located on the south side of the property. The residence driveway faces west and had a concrete apron that blends into Aranbe Avenue. There was a van parked facing west, backed into the driveway. So, Deputy Martinez ran to the corner of the van for cover. As he arrived at the van, Deputy Martinez had a view of the south side of the garage of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue and an adjacent concrete walk way, along the south side of the garage.

Deputy Martinez immediately saw the suspect as he was turning the southeast corner behind the residence and running westbound toward his position, carrying a handgun in his right hand. He stated the suspect was approximately ten to fifteen yards from him and the backdrop was a wood or sheet metal fence. Deputy Martinez had a clear view of the side of the handgun which he described as, "a big, blue or black colored, a semi-automatic." The suspect was pointing the handgun towards the south as though he had just removed it from his right front pants pocket.

Deputy Martinez said the suspect continued to run westbound towards his position with the handgun with his right hand and pointed directly at him (Martinez). Fearing for his life and safety, Deputy Martinez fired three to four rounds in rapid succession at Suspect Hill. Deputy Martinez heard Suspect Hill make a noise as he crouched down. The suspect turned around and ran back toward the east. Deputy Martinez watched as the suspect turned northbound behind the residence of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue, and out of his view.

Deputy Martinez took cover behind the van which was parked in the driveway of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue, then started to put out emergency radio traffic, as he backed away from the van and went northbound. He said he saw his radio car moving east bound on Maple Street, then watched Deputy Veloz exit the radio car and move toward the rear of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue.

Deputy Martinez yelled to Deputy Veloz, trying to tell him that he was alright. Deputy Martinez stated he wasn't sure Deputy Veloz heard his calls.

> **IAB Note:** In Deputy Veloz's interview with Homicide, he indicated he had heard Deputy Martinez's transmissions on the radio. After shooting the suspect himself, Deputy Veloz said he heard Deputy Martinez yelling his name. So, he responded by saying, "I'm good. I'm good." (Refer to Homicide's Transcribed Interview of Deputy Veloz, pages 22 & 24.)

Deputy Martinez said he then lost sight of Deputy Veloz, so he walked southbound on Aranbe Avenue toward the van. At that time, Deputy Martinez heard one shot being fired, briefly followed by more gunshots. Deputy Martinez estimated he heard 6-8 shots being fired. As Deputy Martinez reached the van, he saw Suspect Hill lying at the southeast corner of the garage of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue. Suspect Hill was lying face up, on his back, with his head pointing to the south. At that time, Deputy Martinez continued broadcasting emergency radio traffic. During the broadcast, Deputy Martinez paused long enough to yell for Deputy Veloz to see if he was alright. Deputy Martinez backed away from his position of cover and discovered that he was actually on Aranbe Avenue. Deputy Martinez then advised his correct location via the radio.

Shortly after broadcasting the correct location, Deputy Martinez stated that patrol units and a supervisor from Compton Sheriff's Station arrived on scene. Compton patrol units formed a tactical plan and extracted Suspect Hill from the rear of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue.

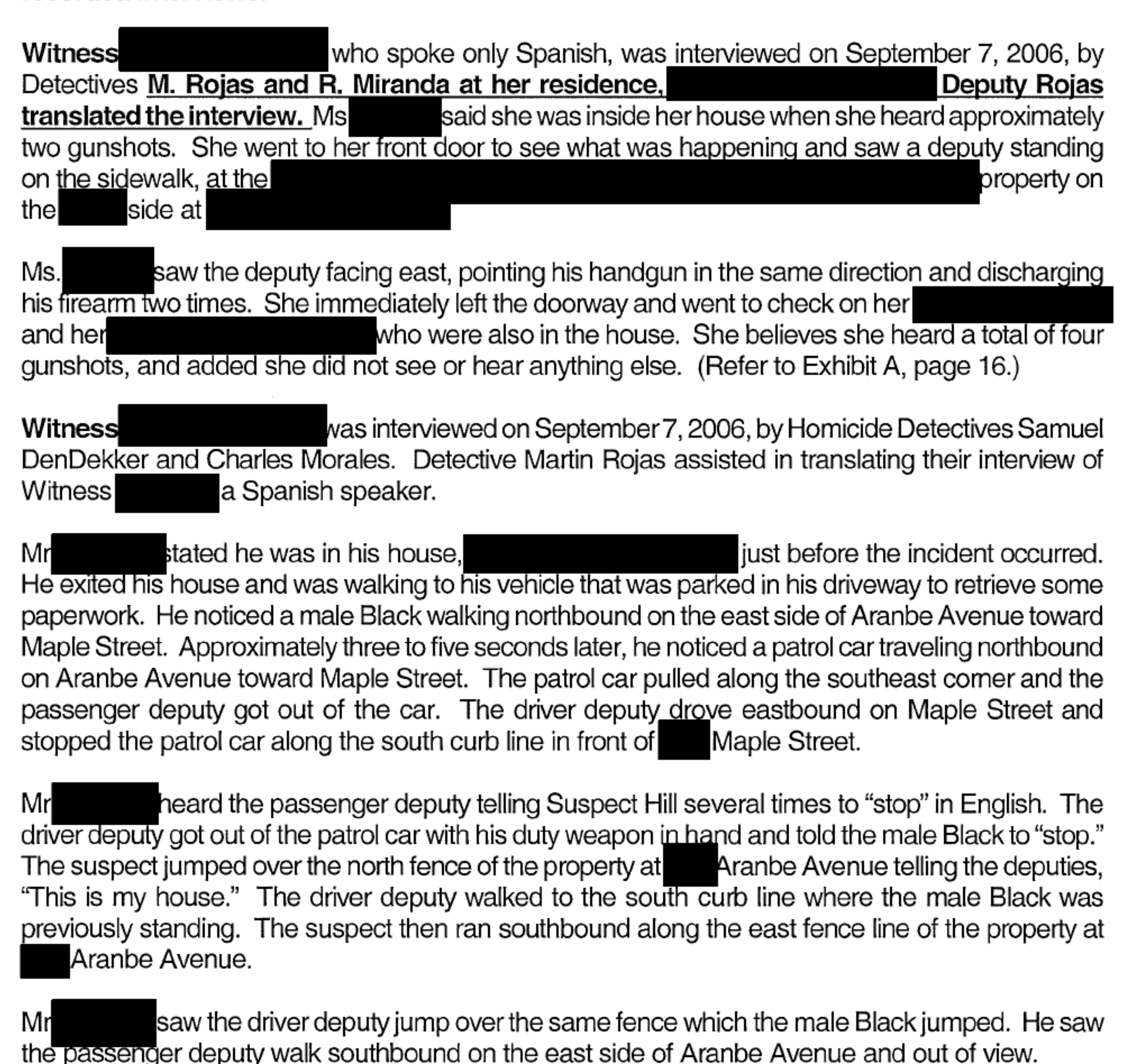
Deputy Martinez advised personnel from the Compton Fire Department that it was safe to approach the location. He stepped away from the scene and located Deputy Veloz. Together, he and Deputy Veloz located and briefed Deputies Kirste and Bergner, who were assigned to write the criminal report.

Deputy Martinez stated he did not recall having any prior contact with Suspect Hill nor had he ever responded to [redacted] Aranbe Avenue in the past.

> **IAB Note:** For complete transcriptions of Deputy Martinez's interviews (the Homicide and Internal Affairs interviews), refer to the "Transcribed Interviews" section of this report.

## NON-DEPARTMENT WITNESS STATEMENTS:

***The following are summaries of the witness interviews conducted by Homicide investigators and taken directly from their report. Review of the audio-recordings confirm that the summaries are accurate representations of the interviews. Additional information and the precise wording of their statements may be obtained by reviewing the recorded interviews.***



**Witness** [redacted] who spoke only Spanish, was interviewed on September 7, 2006, by Detectives **M. Rojas and R. Miranda at her residence,** [redacted] **Deputy Rojas translated the interview.** Ms [redacted] said she was inside her house when she heard approximately two gunshots. She went to her front door to see what was happening and saw a deputy standing on the sidewalk, at the [redacted] property on the [redacted] side at [redacted]

Ms. [redacted] saw the deputy facing east, pointing his handgun in the same direction and discharging his firearm two times. She immediately left the doorway and went to check on her [redacted] and her [redacted] who were also in the house. She believes she heard a total of four gunshots, and added she did not see or hear anything else. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 16.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 7, 2006, by Homicide Detectives Samuel DenDekker and Charles Morales. Detective Martin Rojas assisted in translating their interview of Witness [redacted] a Spanish speaker.

Mr [redacted] stated he was in his house, [redacted] just before the incident occurred. He exited his house and was walking to his vehicle that was parked in his driveway to retrieve some paperwork. He noticed a male Black walking northbound on the east side of Aranbe Avenue toward Maple Street. Approximately three to five seconds later, he noticed a patrol car traveling northbound on Aranbe Avenue toward Maple Street. The patrol car pulled along the southeast corner and the passenger deputy got out of the car. The driver deputy drove eastbound on Maple Street and stopped the patrol car along the south curb line in front of [redacted] Maple Street.

Mr [redacted] heard the passenger deputy telling Suspect Hill several times to "stop" in English. The driver deputy got out of the patrol car with his duty weapon in hand and told the male Black to "stop." The suspect jumped over the north fence of the property at [redacted] Aranbe Avenue telling the deputies, "This is my house." The driver deputy walked to the south curb line where the male Black was previously standing. The suspect then ran southbound along the east fence line of the property at [redacted] Aranbe Avenue.

Mr [redacted] saw the driver deputy jump over the same fence which the male Black jumped. He saw the passenger deputy walk southbound on the east side of Aranbe Avenue and out of view.

Mr. [redacted] went back into his house. He said he heard three to four gunshots followed by a five to six second pause. Then, heard several more gunshots. He heard a total of seven to eight gunshots, but did not see who fired the shots. When he looked out his house, he noticed numerous deputies and patrol cars in front of his house. He said they (deputies) were looking southbound where the suspect ran. (Refer to Exhibit A, pages 17-18.)

**Witness** [redacted] a Spanish speaker, was interviewed on September 7, 2006, by Detective Willis at his residence at [redacted] The interview was translated by Deputy Spencer.

Mr. [redacted] said he was at home all day. He was seated in his dining room when he heard a "loud argument" coming from the front of his home. He heard someone yell, but was unsure what was said or if it was in English or Spanish. He stated he heard five shots in rapid succession. Then after a few moments, he heard five more shots in rapid succession, totaling approximately ten gunshots. He remained seated during the argument and gunshots, and only looked outside after he heard several sirens. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 34.)

**Witness** [redacted] a Spanish speaker, was interviewed on September 7, 2006, by Detective Willis at his residence at [redacted] The interview was translated by Deputy Spencer.

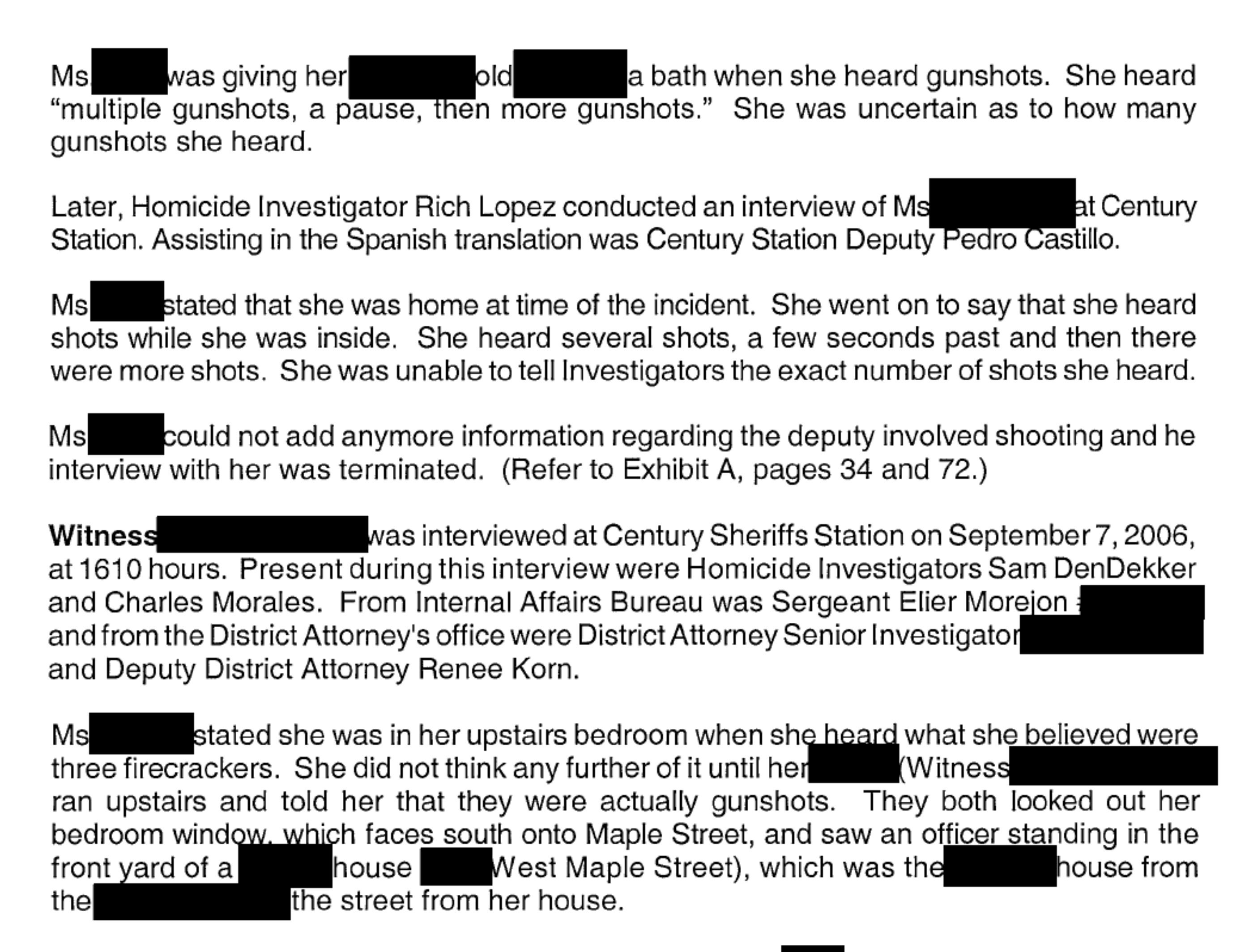
Mr. [redacted] the homeowner, was in his bedroom at the time of the incident when he heard shooting. First, he heard approximately six gunshots in rapid succession. After a few moments, he heard another four gunshots, followed by two more gunshots. A few minutes after the gunshots stopped, he walked outside and saw police cars, so he went back into his residence. He did not hear anything prior to the gunshots. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 34.)

Later, at 1608 hours, Homicide Investigator Rich Lopez conducted an interview of Witness [redacted] Century Station Deputy Pedro Castillo assisted in the Spanish translation.

Mr [redacted] said he was at the rear of his house at the time of the incident. He heard gunshots coming from a western direction. At first, he heard four rapid gunshots. A few seconds passed, and then he heard a few more gunshots. After the shots, he came out of his house and looked to the west. When he looked to the corner of Maple Street and Aranbe Avenue, he observed radio cars. Investigator Lopez asked Mr [redacted] if there were any other adults inside the residents at time he heard the shots. He stated that his [redacted] and his [redacted] were home at the time of the incident. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 71)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 7, 2006, by Detective Willis at his residence at [redacted] He stated he was asleep in his bedroom when he was wakened by a noise. He stated he did not see anything. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 34 and 72.)

**Witness** [redacted] a Spanish speaker, was interviewed on September 7, 2006, by Detective Willis at her residence at [redacted] The interview was translated by Deputy Spencer.



Ms [redacted] was giving her [redacted] old [redacted] a bath when she heard gunshots. She heard "multiple gunshots, a pause, then more gunshots." She was uncertain as to how many gunshots she heard.

Later, Homicide Investigator Rich Lopez conducted an interview of Ms [redacted] at Century Station. Assisting in the Spanish translation was Century Station Deputy Pedro Castillo.

Ms [redacted] stated that she was home at time of the incident. She went on to say that she heard shots while she was inside. She heard several shots, a few seconds past and then there were more shots. She was unable to tell Investigators the exact number of shots she heard.

Ms [redacted] could not add anymore information regarding the deputy involved shooting and he interview with her was terminated. (Refer to Exhibit A, pages 34 and 72.)

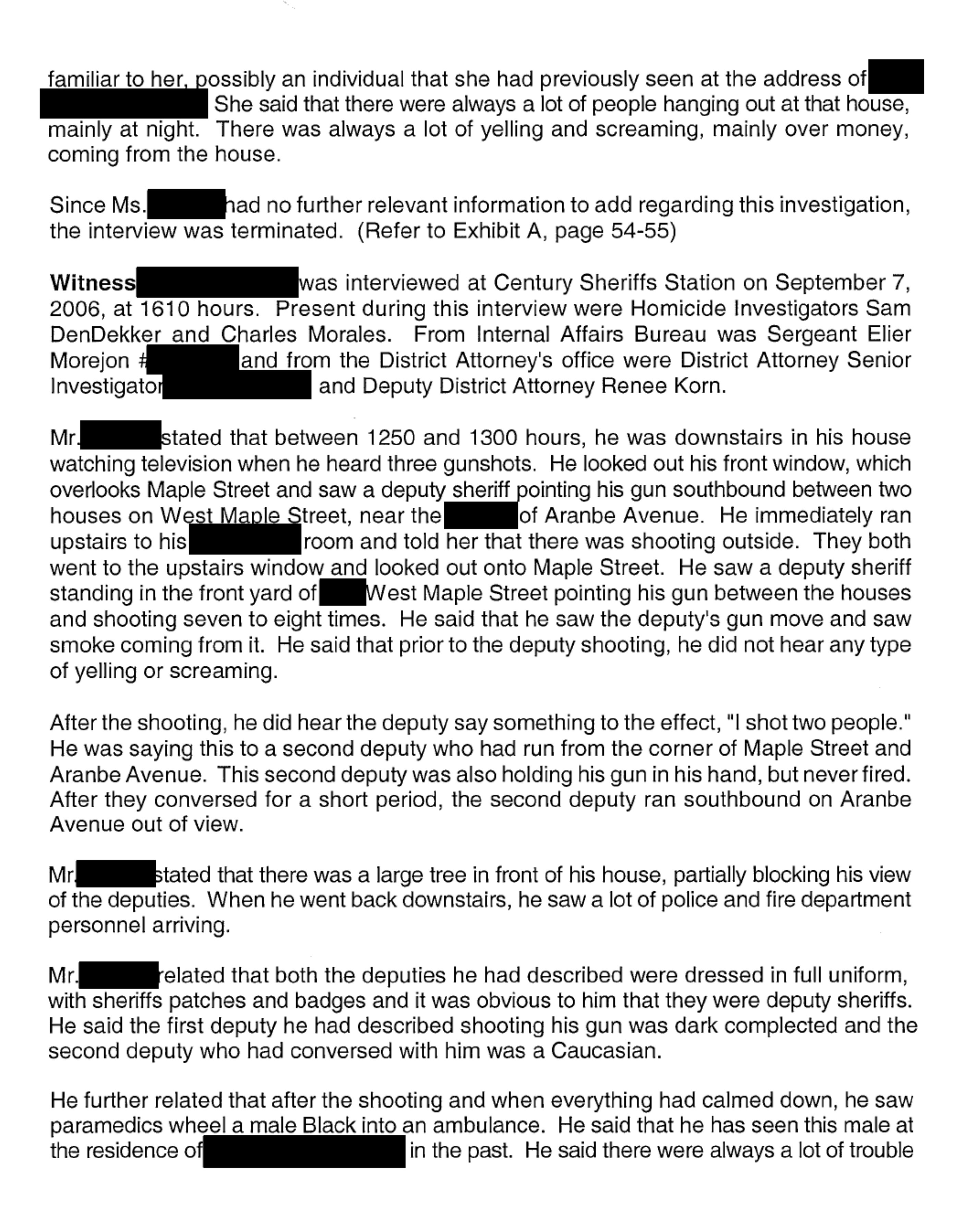
**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed at Century Sheriffs Station on September 7, 2006, at 1610 hours. Present during this interview were Homicide Investigators Sam DenDekker and Charles Morales. From Internal Affairs Bureau was Sergeant Elier Morejon [redacted] and from the District Attorney's office were District Attorney Senior Investigator [redacted] and Deputy District Attorney Renee Korn.

Ms [redacted] stated she was in her upstairs bedroom when she heard what she believed were three firecrackers. She did not think any further of it until her [redacted] (Witness [redacted] ran upstairs and told her that they were actually gunshots. They both looked out her bedroom window, which faces south onto Maple Street, and saw an officer standing in the front yard of a [redacted] house [redacted] West Maple Street), which was the [redacted] house from the [redacted] the street from her house.

The officer was standing close to the east property line of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue and had his gun in his hands. He was pointing his gun south between the two houses. She saw a second officer standing near the intersection of Maple Street and Aranbe Avenue. The two officers had a short conversation and she believed she heard the first officer say, "I shot two," or "I shot twice." She then saw the first officer, who was standing in the yard, fire two to three shots, southbound between the houses. This same officer then yelled into the house, "Are you okay?"

Approximately 10 minutes later, numerous other police officers arrived at the scene. She related she never saw what or whom the officer was shooting at. Nor did she see the second officer in the area when the shooting occurred. She said that both of the officers were dressed in full uniform and it was obvious that they were police officers. She said that at no time did she see the second officer ever have his gun in his hand.

She further related that after the shooting, when additional police and emergency personnel arrived, she noticed that paramedics were loading an individual into an ambulance. She described this individual as a skinny male Black. This person looked



familiar to her, possibly an individual that she had previously seen at the address of [redacted] She said that there were always a lot of people hanging out at that house, mainly at night. There was always a lot of yelling and screaming, mainly over money, coming from the house.

Since Ms. [redacted] had no further relevant information to add regarding this investigation, the interview was terminated. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 54-55)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed at Century Sheriffs Station on September 7, 2006, at 1610 hours. Present during this interview were Homicide Investigators Sam DenDekker and Charles Morales. From Internal Affairs Bureau was Sergeant Elier Morejon # [redacted] and from the District Attorney's office were District Attorney Senior Investigator [redacted] and Deputy District Attorney Renee Korn.

Mr. [redacted] stated that between 1250 and 1300 hours, he was downstairs in his house watching television when he heard three gunshots. He looked out his front window, which overlooks Maple Street and saw a deputy sheriff pointing his gun southbound between two houses on West Maple Street, near the [redacted] of Aranbe Avenue. He immediately ran upstairs to his [redacted] room and told her that there was shooting outside. They both went to the upstairs window and looked out onto Maple Street. He saw a deputy sheriff standing in the front yard of [redacted] West Maple Street pointing his gun between the houses and shooting seven to eight times. He said that he saw the deputy's gun move and saw smoke coming from it. He said that prior to the deputy shooting, he did not hear any type of yelling or screaming.

After the shooting, he did hear the deputy say something to the effect, "I shot two people." He was saying this to a second deputy who had run from the corner of Maple Street and Aranbe Avenue. This second deputy was also holding his gun in his hand, but never fired. After they conversed for a short period, the second deputy ran southbound on Aranbe Avenue out of view.

Mr. [redacted] stated that there was a large tree in front of his house, partially blocking his view of the deputies. When he went back downstairs, he saw a lot of police and fire department personnel arriving.

Mr. [redacted] related that both the deputies he had described were dressed in full uniform, with sheriffs patches and badges and it was obvious to him that they were deputy sheriffs. He said the first deputy he had described shooting his gun was dark complected and the second deputy who had conversed with him was a Caucasian.

He further related that after the shooting and when everything had calmed down, he saw paramedics wheel a male Black into an ambulance. He said that he has seen this male at the residence of [redacted] in the past. He said there were always a lot of trouble

makers at that house and they were always drinking and making a lot of noise.

Since Mr [redacted] had no further relevant information to add regarding this investigation, the interview with him was terminated at 1700 hours. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 55-56.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed September 7, 2006, at 1718 hours, at Century Sheriff Station. Present during this interview were Homicide Investigators Sam DenDekker and Charles Morales. From Internal Affairs Bureau was Sergeant Elier Morejon # [redacted] and from the District Attorney's office were District Attorney Senior Investigator [redacted] and Deputy District Attorney Renee Korn.

Ms [redacted] stated that she lives [redacted] the street and [redacted] houses [redacted] from where the shooting had occurred. She went on to say that she had gone outside to get her [redacted] who was playing in the front yard of her residence, when she saw an officer standing in the yard of [redacted] Aranbe Avenue. This officer was pointing a gun southbound between two houses. She then saw the officer shoot three to four shots between the houses as he was moving toward the side yard, out of her view. There was a pause of about five seconds and then she heard five to six more gunshots.

Since she was no longer able to see the officer, she did not know where these gunshots were coming from. She believed it was possible that someone was shooting at the deputies from inside the house. During the shooting or just prior to the shooting, she heard a male voice that she described as a voice of a male Black yelling, "Stop", from inside the house.

As the gunfire started, she took her [redacted] and ran back into their house. She stayed inside for about ten minutes and when she came back outside, she noticed there were a lot of police and emergency personnel on the street. The area had already been taped off with yellow police tape.

She further related that she did not see who or what the officer was shooting at and estimated that it only took approximately two to three minutes, from when she first saw the officer until she heard the last gunshot. She said that she did notice a marked police car parked on Maple Street near where the deputy was standing. She said she did not have a good view of what was occurring because of the distance involved. She described the deputy she saw shooting as a tall male Hispanic. He was dressed in a full uniform and it was obvious to her that he was a police officer.

Since Ms [redacted] had no further relevant information to add regarding this investigation, the interview with her was terminated at 1732 hours. (Refer to Exhibit A, pages 56-57.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 7, 2006, at 1740 hours, at Century Sheriff. Present during this interview were Homicide Investigators Sam DenDekker and Charles Morales. From Internal Affairs Bureau was Sergeant Elier Morejon # [redacted] and from the District Attorney's office were District Attorney Senior Investigator [redacted] and

Deputy District Attorney Renee Korn.

Mr.[redacted] related that he [redacted] the residence at [redacted] At approximately 1200 hours, he was inside his bedroom which is located in a northwest corner of his house. His bedroom has windows that look out onto both [redacted] and onto [redacted] He said as he was standing near his bedroom window, when he saw someone wearing a white shirt run past his window, eastbound toward the [redacted] of his house. Seconds later, he heard someone else yell very loud, "Halt." He heard this command at least two additional times.

As he looked out the window, he saw an officer standing on the sidewalk of Maple Street adjacent to his side yard. The officer was moving in easterly direction and had his gun in his hand. The officer was directing his attention toward the rear of his house, or in a easterly direction, toward the corner of his house. Mr.[redacted] then saw this officer shoot one round.

Mr.[redacted] said he immediately ran from his bedroom toward the center of his house and told everybody inside to duck and get on the ground. It was about at that time he heard three additional gunshots coming from the same area he had previously seen the officer standing. He did not know who was shooting the gun at this time. He heard a male's voice, who he believed was the first deputy he had seen, yell "check the other side of the house, he's coming around". He said that from his vantage point he was not able to see any other deputies near his residence, nor was he aware of any police cars parked on the street. He related that the officer he had seen was in full uniform and was either Hispanic or White.

Mr[redacted] said that after everything was over, he learned the officer was shooting at his [redacted] whose name he did not know. He said he had last seen this person yesterday and had always thought that something was not right with him. He always acted as if he was a "Big time gangster." He has only known the suspect for a [redacted] and had never seen him in possession of any type of gun.

He related that the other individuals inside his house during the time of the shooting were his [redacted] a [redacted] who he only knew by the last name of [redacted] and her [redacted] and his [redacted] who is in his mid [redacted] and had just been released from [redacted] No one inside his house was injured due to the shooting.

Since Mr.[redacted] had no further relevant information to add regarding this investigation, the interview with him was terminated. (Refer to Exhibit A, pages 57-58.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 07, 2006, at approximately 1535 hours at the residence of [redacted] by Homicide Investigator Robert Harris. Investigator Harris was assisted by Century Station Deputy Arturo Spencer, a Spanish interpreter. This residence is located on the [redacted] side of [redacted] but it has a [redacted] address. This residence is [redacted] Residents in the home would not be afforded a view of the location, but people in the [redacted] side yard may have been able to see portions of the incident.

Ms. [redacted] said she was home around noon, at the time of the incident. She was in her rear bedroom, which is located at the south portion of the residence. She heard eight or nine gunshots in two separate volleys. She first heard approximately four shots, followed immediately by five additional gunshots. She did not hear anything immediately before or after the gunshots. She did not look outside. She made no additional observations regarding this incident. Her [redacted] was present during the interview. He said he was at work when the incident occurred. (Refer to Exhibit A, pages 62-63.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 7, 2006, at approximately 1555 hours at the residence of [redacted] by Homicide Investigator Robert Harris. Investigator Harris was assisted by Century Station Deputy Arturo Spencer, a Spanish interpreter. This residence is on the [redacted] on the [redacted] of [redacted] and [redacted] It is [redacted] of the location and has a view of the location through the [redacted] windows of the residence.

Ms. [redacted] was not recorded and the following paragraph is a summary of her interview. Ms. [redacted] did not allow any of her [redacted] to speak when she abruptly spoke to Investigator Harris. She said that nobody was home at her residence when the incident occurred and nobody in her [redacted] saw or heard anything related to the incident. (Refer to Exhibit A, pages 63.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 07, 2006, at approximately 1557 hours at the residence of [redacted] by Homicide Investigator Robert Harris. Investigator Harris was assisted by Century Station Deputy Arturo Spencer, a Spanish interpreter. This residence is on the [redacted] It is [redacted] of the location and has a view of the location through the [redacted] windows of the residence. Investigator Harris interviewed Witness [redacted] at that location.

Ms. [redacted] said she was home when the incident occurred. She was in her bedroom at the north portion of the residence. S he heard approximately ten gunshots. She did not hear anything related to the gunshots either before or after the gunshots. She was frightened and she waited in her room for a few minutes. She then walked out onto her [redacted] facing front porch. She saw approximately four marked Sheriff patrol cars stopped along the street, near the location. She went back inside and made no additional observations. (Refer to Exhibit A, pages 63.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 07, 2006, at approximately 1604 hours at the residence of [redacted] by Homicide Investigator Robert Harris. Investigator Harris was assisted by Century Station Deputy Arturo Spencer, a Spanish interpreter.

Ms. [redacted] said she was home at noon today when the incident occurred. he was watching television in her south livingroom when she heard eight to nine gunshots. he

heard nothing unusual immediately before or after the gunshots. he looked out her [redacted] facing living room window. he saw nothing unusual. he did not see any uniformed deputies and she did not see a marked Sheriff's vehicle. he returned to what she was doing and made no further observations related to this incident.

Investigator Harris stood at the window and looked [redacted] toward the location. e noted that the [redacted] side of the location was visible, though partially obscured by chain link fencing which surrounded the school property. he view of the area on Maple Street where the marked Sheriff's vehicle was parked was blocked by the house at [redacted] (Refer to Exhibit A, pages 63-64.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 07, 2006, at approximately 1612 hours, at the residence of [redacted] by Homicide Investigator Robert Harris. Investigator Harris was assisted by Century Station Deputy Arturo Spencer, a Spanish interpreter. This residence is a [redacted] Investigator Harris interviewed Witness [redacted] at that location.

Ms [redacted] said she was home today at noon. She was tending to her [redacted] in the far north bedroom when she heard approximately five loud gunshots. She became frightened and she fell to the floor with her [redacted] for safety. She heard nothing immediately before or after the gunshots. She waited a short while and walked to her west living room window. This window faces [redacted] She looked outside and saw a marked black and white Sheriff's radio car which was parked in the center of the roadway and unmanned. The car was facing east and [redacted] the street from her house. She indicated the radio car was parallel to a black truck which was parked in front of [redacted] Maple Street, Compton.

Ms. [redacted] surveyed the area and saw a lone male uniformed deputy standing in the front yard of [redacted] Maple Street, Compton. She pointed to where she said the deputy was standing. She indicated he was standing in the west portion of the yard, and slightly north of the house. The deputy was positioned near a fence with a red blanket draped over it. The fence [redacted] the yards of [redacted] Compton, and [redacted] North Aranbe Avenue, Compton. The deputy was looking south and he appeared to be talking on a radio microphone which he had attached to the upper portion of his shirt.

Ms. [redacted] said that additional marked Sheriff's radio cars arrived quickly. A local Hispanic woman named [redacted] puled onto eastbound Maple Street from Aranbe Avenue. She was driving a red Nissan Quest van. She stopped behind the radio car which was blocking the street. She told the deputies she needed to go home. She was told by the deputies she could not drive through onto maple Street. [redacted] then pulled her red van in front of the location and parked the van on Maple Street. She left the van and went to her home.

Ms [redacted] said that some time later, deputies moved the first radio car she saw from in front of her house. They drove it out to the middle of the road and toward the south curb on Maple Street. They parked the car approximately fifty feet east and out of the traffic lanes. She then pointed to southeast to a parked radio marked Sheriff's vehicle with the numbers "657" on the light bar. She explained that this particular car was the car she referred to as being stopped in front of her house when she heard the gunshots. She said that after several deputies arrived, one of the uniformed deputies got into the car and repositioned it to where it was at the time of this interview.

Investigator Harris inspected the red Nissan Quest van that Ms. [redacted] referred to as being driven by [redacted] The van was parked facing east along the south curb line of Maple Street, directly in front of [redacted] North Aranbe Avenue, Compton. (Refer to Exhibit A, pages 64-65.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 7, 200, at approximately 1623 hours, at her residence at [redacted] She was interviewed by Homicide Investigator Robert Harris. Investigator Harris was assisted by Century Station Deputy Arturo Spencer, a Spanish interpreter. This house is a [redacted] residence. It is [redacted]

Ms. [redacted] said she was home at the time of the incident. She was in her far north bedroom with her [redacted] when she heard approximately five gunshots. She took her [redacted] and hid in her room. She waited a while and went to her south living room and looked out of one of the [redacted] facing windows. She saw a marked Sheriff's radio car parked in the middle of the street on Maple Street, at [redacted] maple Street, Compton. She stated the parked radio car was parallel to the truck when she first looked outside.

Ms. [redacted] saw a male deputy standing in the front yard of [redacted] Maple Street. The deputy was standing in the west portion of the yard and adjacent to a red blanket which was draped over the west fence. Additional deputies arrived a short time later. (Refer to Exhibit A, pages 65-66.)

> ***(It should be noted that the majority of the below interviewed witnesses preferred to communicate in Spanish. Therefore, Deputy Pedro Castillo, #[redacted] of Century Sheriffs Station translated during the interviews for Homicide Investigator Rich Lopez.)***

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 7, 2006, at approximately 1535 hours, at his residence at [redacted] The interview was conducted by Homicide Investigator Rich Lopez.

Mr. [redacted] stated he was home at the time the shooting occurred. He stated he was shopping and when he returned home, the area around Aranbe Avenue and Cedar Street

were contained in yellow crime scene tape. He could not provide any additional information regarding the shooting. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 70.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 7, 2006, at approximately 1535 hours, at his residence at [redacted] The interview was conducted by Homicide Investigator Rich Lopez.

Ms. [redacted] stated that she was home asleep when she was awaken by the sound of two gunshots. A few seconds passed and she heard three to four more gunshots. After hearing the last set of shots, she exited her residence. She looked in the direction of [redacted] North Aranbe Avenue, but all she observed were patrol units. She told Investigators that she did not actually see anything related to the deputy involved shooting.

Witness [redacted] told Investigators that her [redacted] was also home at the time she heard the shots. Investigator Lopez asked Witness [redacted] to have her [redacted] come outside and she complied. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 70.)

**Witness** [redacted] stated she was 37 years old. She was home at the time of the incident. She was asleep at the time of the incident and she did not see or hear anything. She heard about the gunshots when her [redacted] woke her up and told her. Both Witness [redacted] and [redacted] did not see anything related to the deputy involved shooting. Both witnesses could not add anything further regarding the deputy involved shooting and the interview was terminated. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 70.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 7, 2006, at approximately 1550 hours, at his residence at [redacted] The interview was conducted by Homicide Investigator Rich Lopez

Mr. [redacted] stated he was not home at the time of the shooting, so he had no knowledge regarding the shooting. Mr. [redacted] did say that his [redacted] was home at the time. Investigator Lopez asked Mr [redacted] to have his [redacted] step outside and he complied.

The woman who stepped outside would only identify herself as **Mrs.** [redacted] the common-law [redacted] of [redacted] She refused to give officers any type of birth date or any type of identifiers. She did say she was home at the time of the shooting, but she did not see or hear anything. Both witnesses had nothing further to add regarding the deputy involved shooting. (Refer to Exhibit A, pages 70-71.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 7, 2006, at approximately 1553 hours, at his residence at [redacted] The interview was conducted by Homicide Investigator Rich Lopez.

Mr. [redacted] stated to investigators that he was not home at the time of the incident. He did say that his [redacted] and his [redacted] were home. Investigators asked

Mr. [redacted] o have his [redacted] and his [redacted] step out of the house and he complied.

**Witness** [redacted] was contacted by Investigator Lopez regarding her observations of the deputy involved shooting. Witness [redacted] stated that she was in the house at the time of the incident and she heard two volleys of shots. The first volley she heard was approximately three to four shots. A few seconds passed, then she heard another three to four shots. She did not come outside of her house to look because she was afraid.

Witness [redacted] could not add anything further regarding the deputy involved shooting and the interview was terminated.

**Witness** [redacted] was contacted by Investigator Lopez regarding her observations of the deputy involved shooting. Witness [redacted] stated that she was inside the house at the time of the shooting and heard four shots. A few seconds passed and she heard three more shots. She told Investigators that she was uncertain if the sounds she heard were gunfire or fireworks. She also stated that she did not come out of the residence at any time.

Witness [redacted] could not add anything further regarding the deputy involved shooting and the interview was terminated. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 71.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 7, 2006, at approximately 1615 hours, at her residence at [redacted] The interview was conducted by Homicide Investigator Rich Lopez.

Ms [redacted] stated she arrived home from school after the incident. She said she did not see or have any knowledge about the shooting. She also stated when she arrived home after school there was no one at her residence.

Witness [redacted] could not add anything further regarding the deputy involved shooting and the interview was terminated.

> ***IAB Note: There was a malfunction of Investigator Lopez's recording device, so Ms. [redacted] interview was not recorded.***

(Refer to Exhibit A, page 72.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 7, 2006, at approximately 1619 hours, at her residence at [redacted] The interview was conducted by Homicide Investigator Rich Lopez.

Witness [redacted] stated that she was home at the time of the incident, but did not see or hear anything. She also told Investigator Lopez that she was home alone.

Witness [redacted] could not add anymore information regarding the deputy involved shooting and the interview was terminated. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 72.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed on September 7, 2006, at 1647 hours, at her residence at [redacted] The interview was conducted by Homicide Investigator Rich Lopez.

Ms. [redacted] told Investigators that she was home with her [redacted] at the time of the incident. It should be noted that her home is the [redacted] house [redacted] of where the deputy involved shooting took place, at [redacted] North Aranbe Avenue. She went on to say that she was inside of her residence when she heard what she believed to be gunshots coming from outside her residence. She walked to her front door, which is located on the [redacted] side of the house and stood at the threshold of the door. She recalled that the [redacted] door was closed and locked, but she could see through the spaces in the [redacted]

When she looked in the direction of the shots, she observed a lone male deputy dressed in a uniform, standing on the sidewalk west of [redacted] North Aranbe Avenue. She explained that the deputy on the sidewalk was pointing a pistol to the east. Witness [redacted] upon seeing the deputy, closed and locked her wooden door and took her children to the south side of the house. [redacted] said she did not see or hear anything prior to the gunshots.

Witness [redacted] remarked that at first she heard two shots which appeared to come from the street in front of her house. Then she heard shots that appeared to be farther away possibly coming from the east or the rear of her house.

Witness [redacted] could not add anything further regarding the deputy involved shooting and the interview was terminated.

Witness [redacted] preferred to communicate in Spanish. Deputy A. Spencer, # [redacted] from Century Sheriffs Station translated during the interview for Investigator Lopez. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 73.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed at his residence at [redacted] by Century Station Detective Martin Rojas.

Mr. [redacted] said he was watching television in the living room of his house when he heard the sound of gunfire coming from the area in front of his house. He immediately crouched, grabbed a hold of his [redacted] (Witness [redacted], and led him toward the rear (south portion) of their home. He did not see who fired the gunshots and was unable to provide additional information. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 14.)

**Witness** [redacted] was interviewed at his residence at [redacted] by Century Station Detective Martin Rojas.

Mr [redacted] stated he was watching television in the living room of his house when he heard the sound of gunfire coming from the area in front of his house. He tried to lay on the floor, but his [redacted] Witness [redacted] grabbed him and led him toward the kitchen (rear of the house). He heard approximately six to ten shots. Minutes later, he heard sirens and unknown persons talking in his front yard. He looked out and saw they were deputies. He did not see who fired the shots and was unable to provide additional information. (Refer to Exhibit A, page 14.)

**SUSPECT STATEMENT:**

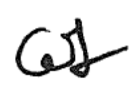
None, deceased.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

During I.A.B.'s interviews with Deputies Veloz and Martinez on November 8, 2007, both indicated the suspect was possibly wanted for a [redacted] in Riverside County.

Upon further investigation, it was learned on July 7, 2006, Homicide Bureau Investigators, Joseph Purcell and Suzan Young, were investigating a Century Station murder case wherein an associate of "Fruit Town Piru" was shot and killed by three "Tree Top Piru" gang members.

On August 27, 2007, an informant from "Fruit Town Piru" (a.k.a., [redacted]), was in custody on a different case. He told investigators that he was present during the Century Station murder in July 2006. The informant identified one of the shooters by nickname ("Y.G.") and photograph. Further investigation revealed "Y.G." was the moniker of "Craig Hill", a "Tree Top Piru" gang member who was known to carry a firearm at all times. Although the investigators had not supplied any information to anyone prior to Deputies Veloz and Martinez's shooting, they stated Compton Station deputies knew this information [redacted] had provided. The investigators had no knowledge Craig Hill was wanted for murder by any agency other than our Department.




# LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
## BUREAU OF FRAUD AND CORRUPTION PROSECUTIONS
## JUSTICE SYSTEM INTEGRITY DIVISION

STEVE COOLEY • District Attorney
JOHN K. SPILLANE • Chief Deputy District Attorney
CURTIS A. HAZELL • Assistant District Attorney

JANICE L. MAURIZI • Director

July 9, 2007

Captain Raymond Peavy
Homicide Bureau
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
5747 Rickenbacker Road
Commerce, California 90040

RE: J. S. I. D. File No. 06-0549
LASD File No. 006-14873-2199-013

Dear Captain Peavy:

The Justice System Integrity Division of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office has completed its review of the September 7, 2006, fatal shooting of Craig Hill involving Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputies Julio Martinez and Oscar Veloz. We have concluded that the deputies acted lawfully in self-defense.

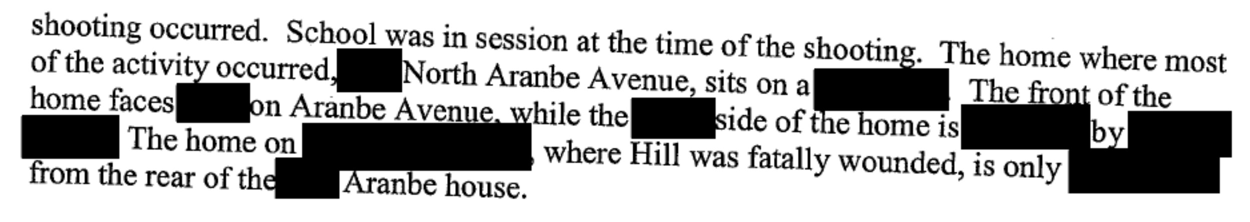
The following analysis is based upon our examination of an investigative file prepared by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD), which included investigative reports, photographs, analyzed evidence reports, and witness' statements submitted to this office by Sergeant Bill Kotter on April 5, 2007. The District Attorney Command Center was notified of the shooting at approximately 12:45 p.m. on September 7, 2006. The District Attorney Response Team, comprised of Deputy District Attorney Renee Korn and District Attorney Senior Investigator [redacted] responded to the scene. They were given a briefing of the circumstances surrounding the shooting and a "walk-through" of the scene. No compelled statements were considered in our analysis.

## FACTUAL ANALYSIS

On Thursday, September 7, 2006, at approximately 12:00 p.m. LASD Deputies Julio Martinez and Oscar Veloz were on patrol in Compton in a marked patrol vehicle. Deputy Veloz was driving. Both deputies were in full uniform.

It is important to understand the geography surrounding this shooting. The area is a residential neighborhood of small homes built in close proximity to one another. Dickison Elementary School is located at 905 North Aranbe Avenue across the street from where the

Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012-3210
(213) 974-3888
WEBSITE: http://da.co.la.ca.us



shooting occurred. School was in session at the time of the shooting. The home where most of the activity occurred, [redacted] North Aranbe Avenue, sits on a [redacted]. The front of the home faces [redacted] on Aranbe Avenue, while the [redacted] side of the home is [redacted] by [redacted] The home on [redacted], where Hill was fatally wounded, is only [redacted] from the rear of the [redacted] Aranbe house.

Deputies Martinez and Veloz observed a suspect, later identified as Craig Hill, standing on the southeast corner of Aranbe Avenue and Maple Street. Hill looked suspiciously at the deputies and began to walk away. Deputy Martinez exited the patrol car and ordered Hill to stop. Deputy Veloz drove a few feet further down Maple Street to the curb and exited the car with his service weapon in hand. Veloz also instructed Hill to stop. Both deputies saw Hill reach for his waistband, flee eastbound down Maple Street, then jump a wrought iron fence into the side yard of the home on [redacted] Aranbe Avenue.

Deputy Martinez ran to the front [west side] of the residence while Deputy Veloz positioned himself in the front yard of [redacted] Maple Avenue, the home immediately [redacted] to the back and side yard of the [redacted] Aranbe home. Shortly after getting to the side of the house, Martinez saw Hill run at him via a small walkway on the south side of the house. Martinez yelled at Hill to stop. Hill pointed a small handgun directly at him and towards the direction of Dickison Elementary School. Fearing for his life, Deputy Martinez fired three rounds towards Hill. Hill turned around and disappeared behind the house. Moments later, Deputy Martinez heard several more gunshots.

Veloz heard several gunshots coming from Martinez' location. Veloz immediately was concerned for the safety of his partner, and before he could take any action, he saw Hill at the west side yard of [redacted] Maple Street pointing a handgun at him. Veloz immediately fired 11 rounds at Hill. Hill appeared to be struck, fell to the ground, and a gun droppedfrom his hand.

Veloz kept his gun pointed on Hill while Deputy Martinez radioed for assistance and numerous deputies came to the location. Deputies observed a .40 caliber "Smith and Wesson" blue steel, semiautomatic weapon on the ground within Hill's reach. After determining Hill was unconscious and no longer posed a threat, several deputies carried him to the street in order for paramedics to provide medical treatment.

Hill was transported to St. Francis Hospital by the Compton Fire Department. He was pronounced dead by Dr. Tchaka Shepard, M.D. at 12:44 p.m. During the medical treatment, Emergency Medical Technician Baltazar Fierro found a piece of plastic containing several rocks of cocaine and a ziplock baggie containing marijuana in Hill's pant pocket.

On September 10, 2006, Deputy Medical Examiner Raffi Djabourian performed an autopsy on the body of Craig Hill. Dr. Djabourian determined the cause of death to be multiple gunshot wounds. Hill suffered twelve separate gunshot wounds. Toxicology tests found that Smith had marijuana in his blood at the time of his death.

Hill's firearm was examined. Eight live rounds were found in the magazine, but the weapon did not have a round in the chamber.

There were numerous witnesses to the shooting that corroborate the events. Two witnesses, [redacted] and [redacted] witnessed a substantial portion of the incident.

[redacted] lived at [redacted] Around 12:00 p.m., [redacted] saw Hill run past his bedroom window located in the [redacted] of his house. [redacted] then heard voices repeatedly yell, "Halt!" He saw a deputy on the [redacted] side of his home looking into the rear yard. [redacted] stated that the deputy fired one round which caused [redacted] to yell to everyone in the house to get down for cover. [redacted] then heard a voice yell, "check the other side of the house, he's coming around."

After the incident, [redacted] learned that the shooting victim (Hill) was his [redacted] stated he did not know Hill's name and had only known him for about a [redacted] He noted that Hill always acted as if he was a "big time gangster" and [redacted] thought that something was not right with him.

[redacted] lived at [redacted] a home [redacted]he street from the side of [redacted] N. Aranbe Avenue. Just before the incident occurred, [redacted] walked outside his house to retrieve some paperwork from his car. [redacted] noticed a male [Suspect Hill] walking near the corner of Aranbe Avenue and Maple Street. Several seconds later [redacted] saw a patrol car drive up along Maple Street at the corner. He saw the passenger deputy get out of the patrol car and heard him tell Hill several times to "stop" in English. The driver of the patrol car got out of the vehicle with his duty weapon in hand and also told Hill to "stop." [redacted] stated that Hill jumped over the fence at [redacted] Aranbe and told the deputies that, "This is my house." [redacted] saw the passenger deputy walk to the front side of the Aranbe house, then observed the driver deputy climb the side wall t[redacted] Aranbe Avenue. Cornejo went back inside his house and immediately heard three to four gunshots. Several seconds later he heard several more gunshots.

**LEGAL ANALYSIS**

Penal Code §§ 692-694 specifically authorize any individual protecting himself or another to use all force which he believes to be reasonably necessary and which would appear to a reasonable person in the same or similar circumstances, to be necessary to prevent the injury which appears to be imminent. *See also, California Jury Instructions-Criminal 5.30, 5.32.*

The California Court of Appeal has held that actual danger is not necessary to justify the use of deadly force in self-defense. If one is confronted by the appearance of danger which one believes, and a reasonable person in the same position would believe, would result in death or great bodily injury, one may act upon these circumstances. The right of self-defense is the same whether the danger is real or merely apparent. *People v. Toledo* (1948) 85 Cal.App.2d 575.

When the peril is swift and imminent and the necessity for action immediate, the law does not weigh into nice scales the conduct of the assailed and say he shall not be justified in killing because he might have resorted to other means to secure his safety. *People v. Collins (1961) 189 Cal. App.3d 575.*

A person threatened with an attack that justifies the exercise of the right to self-defense need not retreat. In the exercise of his right of self-defense a person may stand his ground and defend himself by all force and means which would appear to be necessary to a reasonable person in a similar situation and with similar knowledge; and a person may pursue his assailant until he has secured himself from danger if that course, likewise, appears reasonably necessary. This law applies even though the assailed person might more easily have gained safety by flight or withdrawing from the scene. *California Jury Instructions Criminal (CALJIC) 5.5.*

**CONCLUSION**

On September 7, 2006, at approximately 12:00 p.m., Deputies Martinez and Veloz were on patrol when they saw Hill acting suspiciously while standing directly across the street from an elementary school. When the deputies attempted to contact Hill, he fled and jumped into the back yard of a home. The deputies both ordered him to stop. When Hill did not comply and pointed his gun at the deputies, the deputies responded with gun fire. Hill's actions placed both deputies in imminent danger of death or great bodily injury. We find that Deputies Julio Martinez and Oscar Veloz acted in lawful self-defense. We are closing our file and will take no further action in this matter.

Very truly yours,

STEVE COOLEY
District Attorney

By

RENÉE KORN
Deputy District Attorney
(213) 974-3641

c: Deputy Julio Martinez, Serial No. [redacted]
Deputy Oscar Veloz, Serial No. [redacted]